

DEPARTMENT OF BENEFIT PAYMENTS

744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

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May 3, 1976

ALL-COUNTY LETTER NO. 76-70

TO: ALL-COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: REVISED REGULATIONS INCORPORATING CHDP REQUIREMENTS

REFERENCE: MPP SECTIONS 10-501, 14-325, 40-107, 40-131, 40-173, 40-181, JOINT
DBP/DOH ACL OF 6/25/75

This letter supersedes CHDP instructions as set forth in the joint Department of Benefit Payments/Department of Health (DBP/DOH) All-County Letter of June 6, 1975 to all county welfare directors. Emergency regulations containing procedures for notifying Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) eligibles of the availability of medical examinations under the Child Health and Disability Prevention (CHDP) Program were adopted effective December 24, 1975. The regulations define income maintenance responsibilities with respect to outreach, referral, and staff training as required by federal law and the Telles Consent Decree issued May 16, 1975.

The Telles Decree is a result of the Telles v. California Health and Welfare Agency litigation and compels the state to adopt regulations consistent with federal law which requires that screening and diagnostic medical services be provided to eligible children and that AFDC eligibles be notified of the availability of these services. HEW will continue to conduct county audits to determine whether federal requirements are being met.

Effective December 24, 1975, under revised Manual of Policies and Procedures (MPP) Sections 10-501, 40-107, 40-131, and 40-181, the eligibility worker is required to inform all applicants/recipients of the purpose and availability of CHDP services and to provide the CHDP brochure during all application, restoration, and annual redetermination interviews. The eligibility worker must document provision of the brochure by writing "CHDP Brochure Given" on the WR 2 form in the space provided next to Question 22. CHDP brochure supplies are available through the local CHDP programs in each county health department.

OBsoleteSuperseded by ACL # 77-15

GEN 654 (2/75)

Issued 3-17-77

After this information is provided, the eligibility worker must verify that the applicant/recipient has answered Question 22 A and C on the WR 2 (5/75 revision) which asks (A) whether the applicant/recipient wants information about free medical examinations for children or (C) needs social services or transportation to obtain CHDP services. If the WR 2 was completed prior to the interview the eligibility workers must reverify the applicant's/recipient's response to Question 22 after the provision of information in order to determine that its meaning was clearly understood. The eligibility worker must inform all applicants/recipients of the availability of CHDP services and supply the CHDP brochure regardless of whether the applicant/recipient responds "yes" or "no" to Question 22 A's offer of CHDP information. A reply of "yes" to Question 22 A or C constitutes a request for services and should initiate a referral to county social services unless other referral arrangements have been made with the local CHDP Program.

Specific methods of referral and documentation thereof should be developed at the local level between the county welfare department and the CHDP Program to designate the responsibilities of income maintenance, Social Services, and the CHDP Program in the referral process. Special referral options include but are not limited to the following: 1) Income Maintenance immediately refers the request directly to the CHDP Program or to a provider if these arrangements have been made, or to Social Services, and subsequently notifies them upon verification of eligibility or 2) Income Maintenance holds the request until eligibility is verified, then initiates a referral directly to the CHDP Program or to a provider if these arrangements have been made, or to Social Services. Federal regulation provides that applicants/recipients requesting CHDP services shall receive those screening services within a reasonable period of time normally not to exceed 60 days from the date of request or in new applications and restorations not to exceed 60 days from the date of authorization for aid. A referral to Social Services is indicated when support services are necessary, including assistance in arranging transportation and day care, or when other barriers exist which prevent the utilization of CHDP screening services.

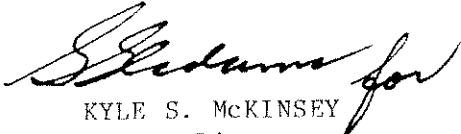
Income Maintenance responsibilities as discussed in this letter are limited to informing the applicant/recipient as previously explained and to referral to the appropriate program when CHDP services are requested or support services are needed to obtain CHDP services. Any areas of responsibility for county welfare department staff negotiated between counties and CHDP must be covered under DBP regulations for TMU staff or Title XX mandated "Health Related Services" for social services staff.

MPP Section 14-325 Eligibility Worker Induction Training has been expanded to require training in the purpose and availability of CHDP Program services and the eligibility worker's notification and documentation responsibilities. County training programs should incorporate these areas in future induction training sessions and in continuing in-service training programs.

HEW has indicated that these methods of notification and documentation as set forth in the revised regulations will constitute compliance with Federal Early Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment (EPSDT) Program requirements. We would like to emphasize to you the importance of implementing and maintaining these procedures to avoid further penalty assessments which would result in federal withholding of Title IV A AFDC funds.

If you have any questions regarding these procedures, please contact your AFDC management consultant at (916) 445-4458.

Sincerely,


KYLE S. MCKINSEY
Deputy Director

cc: CWDA